FORT MCDOWELL

FORT MCDOWELL, EAST GARRISON NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS

(Fort McDowell, East Garrison, Building No. 36)

Angel Island Marin County California HABS No. CA-2721-C

HABS CAL 21-ANGEL, 2C-

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW
Washington, DC 20240

ADDENDUM TO:
FORT MCDOWELL, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS'
QUARTERS
(Building No. 25-26)
Angel Island State Park
Angel Island
Marin County
California

HABS CA-2721-B CAL,21-ANGEL,2B-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
National Park Service
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

FORT MCDOWELL, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS (Fort McDowell - East Garrison, Building No. 25-26)

HABS No. CA-2721-B

Location: Angel Island, Marin County, California

Present Owner: State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation

Present Occupant: Angel Island State Park

Present Use: Vacant

Significance: This double non-commissioned officers' quarters is one of the oldest

buildings at the East Garrison of Fort McDowell. This wood frame dwelling may predate the establishment of a permanent Recruit Depot in 1909 and the concrete building campaign undertaken in 1910-14. The dissimilar plans for each unit indicate the ad hoc nature of army construction and repair, particularly for non-commissioned officers

quarters.

<u>Description:</u> Currently Building No. 25-26 is in poor condition. It is located directly

adjacent to the southeast side of the road passing through the row of NCO quarters. Building No. 25-26 is an approximately 54 by 41 foot, one-story, wood frame structure with a T-shaped, cross-gable roof. The plan is nearly rectangular, with flat roof sections of unequal size on either side of the rear gable ell. Building No. 25-26 sits on wood posts underpinned by concrete blocks. It has horizontal wood weatherboard exterior siding approximately six inches wide and an asphalt shingle roof. The two units are dissimilar in plan, with entrances at the center bays on the long north elevation. There was a shared entrance porch that is no longer extant. For

more information see drawings HABS No. CA-2721-B.

<u>History:</u> Army records give an estimated construction date for this building of

1904, with an estimated cost of \$1,100. It is one of several extant NCO Quarters grouped on a bluff at the southwest edge of the East Garrison that may date to the earliest years of the Recruit Depot. A 1907 site plan of the Depot of Recruits and Casuals shows an Officers' Quarters in the location of Building No. 25-26. The building footprint is slightly different, but could reflect the appearance of this building before addition of the flat roof sections to either side of the rear ell. A c. 1909 photograph of a double captains' quarters seems to be the same building, with vertical board and

FORT MCDOWELL, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS HABS No. CA-2721-B (Page 2)

batten siding instead of the current horizontal weatherboard. This building is designated No. 22-23 at this time.

In a 1915 site plan the four small buildings along this bluff were designated non-commissioned officers' quarters. Each of these structures is depicted with an unique footprint; the irregular plan of the building just northwest of center could be Building No. 25-26 with only one side of the rear ell extended. This structure probably became NCO Quarters after the much more substantial reinforced concrete officer's quarters where constructed in 1910-11. Building No. 25-26 was heated with coal stoves and lit by electricity. Army records indicate that new plumbing fixtures were installed in each unit during 1936.

Sources:

Fort McDowell site plan (20 October 1915), Fortification File, NARA, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, RG 77, Drawer 97, Sheet 32-12.

Fort McDowell site plan (1922), Blueprint File, NARA, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, RG 92, Sheet 8. All of the NCO quarters are depicted on this plan with their current numbers.

Historical Record of Public Buildings (QMC Form No. 117), Fort McDowell, Angel Island, Building No. 25-26 - Non-Commissioned Officers Quarters, NARA, RG 77, Entry 393, Box 142, Folder 3; Box 143, Folder 2. Each version of this maintenance form has a different photograph and information about repairs. One photograph is dated July 1937.

List of Public Buildings at Depot of Recruits & Casuals, Angel Island, California, (18 February 1909), NARA, RG 92, Entry 89, Box 4947, File No. 217173. This list provides designations as well as the building numbers that also correspond with the photographs listed below.

Photograph of Building No. 22-23, c. 1909. A series of black and white snapshots of the Recruit Depot labeled with building numbers was found in the National Archives, Washington, D.C., RG 92, Entry 89, Box 7000, File No. 305307. These photographs are with correspondence dated March 28, 1911, but the images appear to have been taken a few years earlier since no concrete buildings are pictured.

Site plan (blueprint), Depot of Recruits and Casuals (14 March 1905, revised January, July 1907), NARA, RG 92, Entry 89, Box 5333, File No.

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Project Information:

Documentation of Fort McDowell was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) Division of the National Park Service, E. Blaine Cliver, Chief. The project was sponsored by the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, Rusty Areias, Director; and by Angel Island State Park, Nick Franco, Superintendent. Project planning was coordinated by Paul Dolinsky, Chief, HABS. The field recording was conducted and the measured drawings were produced during 2001 by project supervisor Mark Schara, HABS Architect; by HABS Architect Naomi Hernandez; and by architects Christine M. Odom (University of Texas) and Gregory J. Sokaris (State University of New York at Buffalo). Historical reports were produced during 2002 by Lisa Pfueller Davidson, HABS Historian. Large format photographs were produced during 2002-03 by James Rosenthal, HABS Photographer. Assistance in all phases of this project was provided by the staff of Angel Island State Park. See related documentation, HABS No. CA-1841, Camp Reynolds, for information about the West Garrison portion of the island.